

Amendments to the claims

Please amend Claims 1 and 3 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an image display apparatus having an airtight container including ~~a face plate and~~ a rear plate having a plurality of electron-emitting devices, and a face plate disposed in opposition to the rear plate and ~~has~~ having a phosphor and an electroconductive film, ~~the said~~ method comprising the steps of:

disposing the rear plate having the plurality of electron-emitting devices and the face plate having the phosphor and the electroconductive film such that the rear plate and the face plate are opposite to each other and arranging a plurality of ~~plate-shaped~~ plate-shaped spacers between the rear plate and the face plate to assemble the airtight container;

slanting the airtight container such that a longitudinal direction of the plate-shaped spacers is not perpendicular to a gravitational direction; and

applying an electric field between the rear plate and the face plate while the airtight container is slanted ~~in a state that the airtight container is slanted such that a longitudinal direction of the plate-shaped spacers is not perpendicular to a gravitational direction.~~

2. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing an image display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the electric field is lower than an electric field applied between the rear plate and the face plate when driving the image display apparatus.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an image display apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the electric field is $1/10$ to $1/2$ of an electric field applied between the rear plate and the face plate when driving the image display apparatus.